

CLAIMS

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All
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1. A timer module comprising:
a body;
control means within said body that automates the capture of multiple images by a camera module, the capture of each image being separated by a specific time interval;
at least one connection means incorporated in said body for connecting said timer module to a bus providing power and data between said timer module and said camera module.
- 10 2. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said control means automates storage of images in at least one memory module connected to said bus.
3. The timer module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body, at least one connection means connecting said timer module to at least said camera module and at least one memory module.
- 15 4. The timer module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body including a first connection means connectable to said camera module and a second connection means connectable to further modules in a stackable manner.
- 20 5. The timer module of claim 1 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body, said two or more connection means providing through connection to said camera module and one or more further modules of a compact printer system.
- 25 6. The timer module of claim 1 further comprising a LCD within said body, said LCD being connected to said control means and providing information about said time intervals.
7. The timer module of claim 6 wherein said LCD is capable of displaying a plurality of icons indicative of a unit and a number of said units of said specific time interval and a proportion of said time interval elapsed until a next image capture time.
- 30 8. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said control means is an application specific integrated circuit comprising a microcontroller and clock.
9. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said control means further comprises information about an image number and a target memory module for storage of said captured images.

10. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said at least one connection means comprises a male bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said timer module and said camera module.
11. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said at least one connection means comprises a female bayonet fitting providing physical connection between said timer module and said camera module.
12. The timer module of claim 1 further comprising a SELECT button to select a unit of said specific time interval.
13. The timer module of claim 1 further comprising a UNITS button to select a number of units of said specific time interval.
14. The timer module of claim 1 further comprising a START/STOP button to start and stop a countdown of at least one of said specific time intervals.
15. The timer module of claim 1 wherein said bus is a Serial Bus.
16. A timer module [for a compact printer system] comprising:
a body;
control means within said body that automates the capture of multiple images by a connected camera module, the capture of each image being separated by a specific time interval;
at least one connection means incorporated in said body for connecting said timer effects module to a bus providing power and data between said effects module and said camera module.
17. The timer module of claim 16 having two or more connection means incorporated in said body including a first connection means connectable to said camera module and a second connection means connectable to one or more memory modules in a stackable manner, said control means automating storage of said images in said one or more memory modules.
18. A method of automating the capture of multiple images by a camera module in a compact printer system comprising the steps of:
setting a specific time interval between said capture of said images,
setting an initial image number on a connected memory module,
starting said image capture process.

Intended use